

SPIDER-MAN[®]

MARVEL[®] COMICS GROUP



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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

HANG ON TO JAMESON, WEB-SLINGER! THE **PUNISHER** WILL SAVE YOU BOTH!

BUT WHO'S GOING TO SAVE **YOU**, HERO-- FROM THE **VENGEANCE OF THE HITMAN!**

AND WITH MY **INJURED ARM**, I CAN'T SAVE ANY OF US!



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Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN™

LEN WEIN: WRITER/EDITOR * ROSS ANDRU: ARTIST * JIM MOONEY: INKER * GLYNIS WEIN: COLORIST * JOE ROSEN: LETTERER

BIG APPLE BATTLEGROUND!

OKAY, IN 25 WORDS OR LESS, THE SITUATION IS THIS: THE HITMAN HAS KIDNAPPED J. JONAH JAMESON FROM HIS OFFICE AT THE DAILY BUGLE, AND SPIDEY AND THE PUNISHER ARE ATTEMPTING TO PREVENT THEIR GETAWAY!

BHUUUD-UD-UD-AH!

LEAVE ME ALONE, WEB-SLINGER! I'M BRINGING THAT COPTER DOWN--

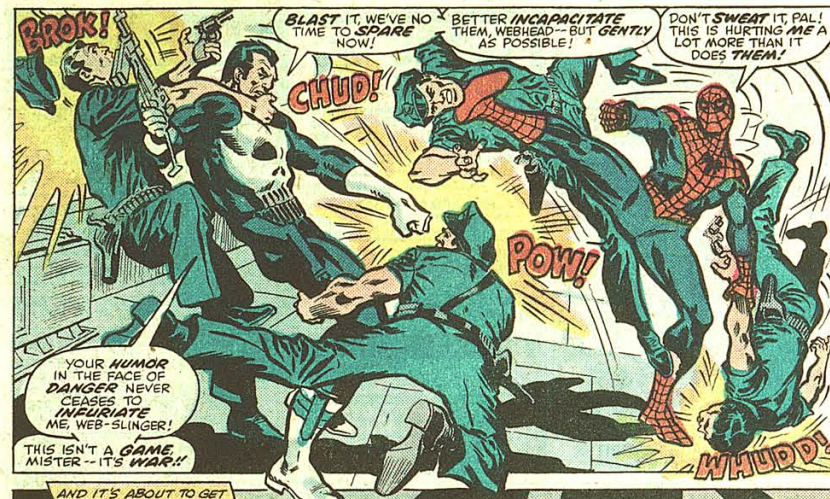
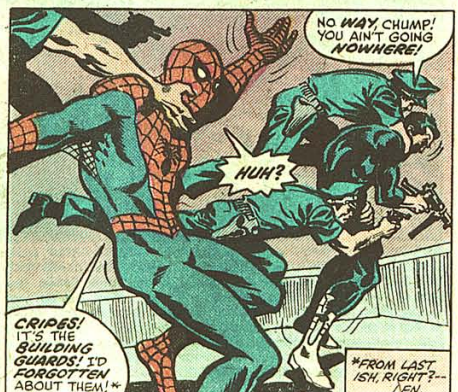
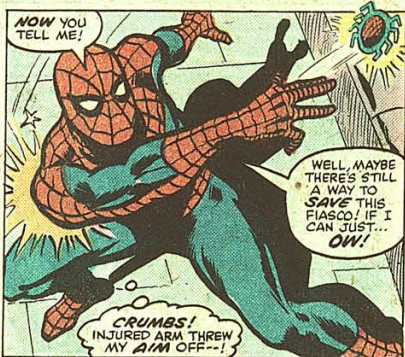
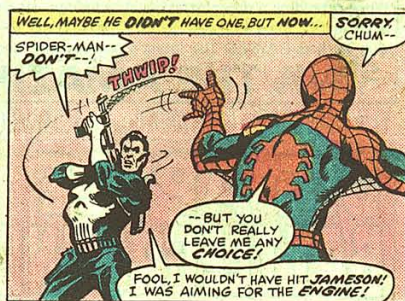
--ONE WAY OR ANOTHER!!

THERE! NOW WHO SAYS THIS ISN'T THE MARVEL AGE OF COMPACT RECAPS?

PUNISHER--NO! DON'T SHOOT! ONE STRAY BULLET--AND YOU'LL KILL J. JONAH JAMESON!!

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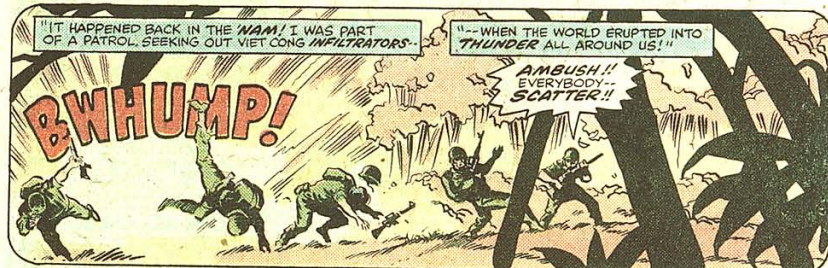
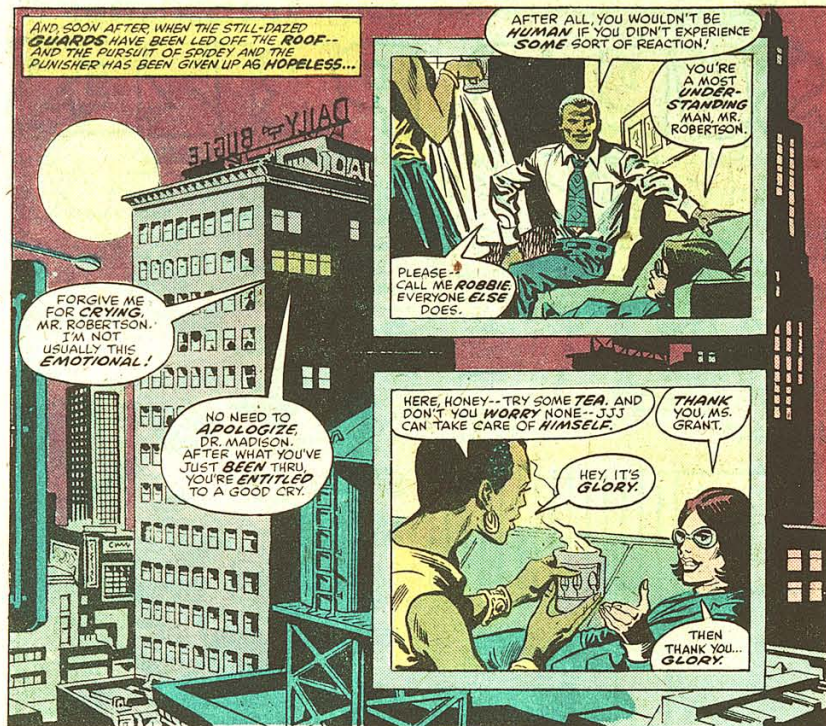
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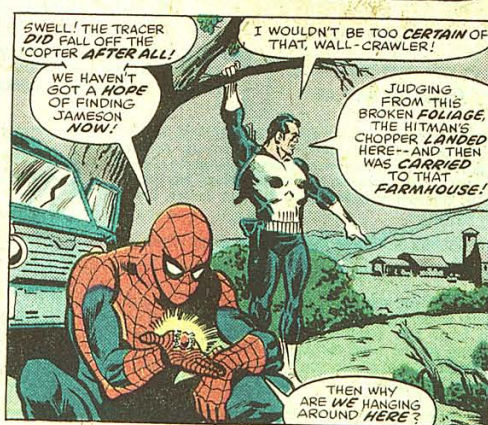
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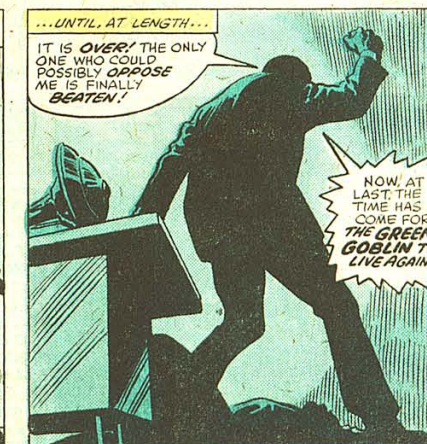
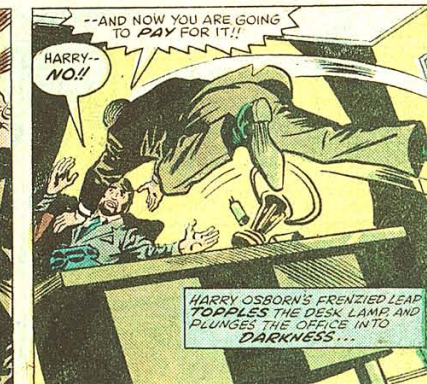
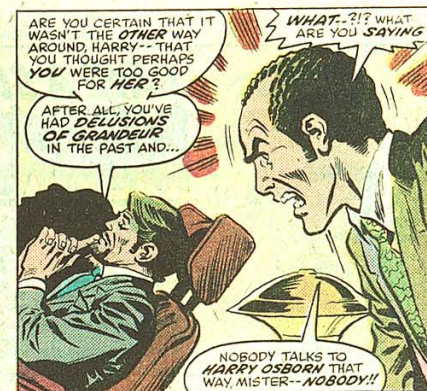
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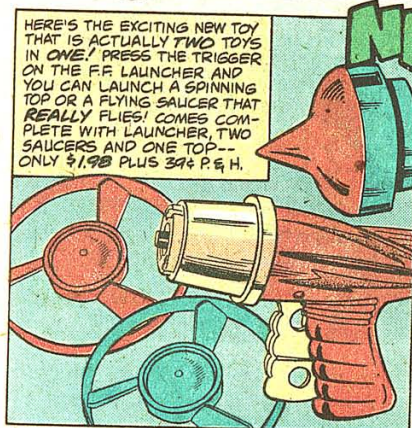
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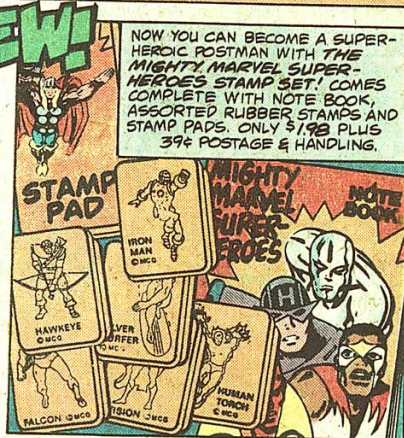


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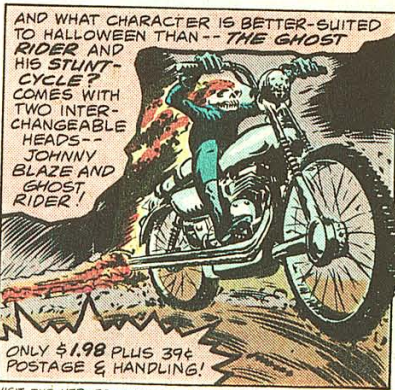
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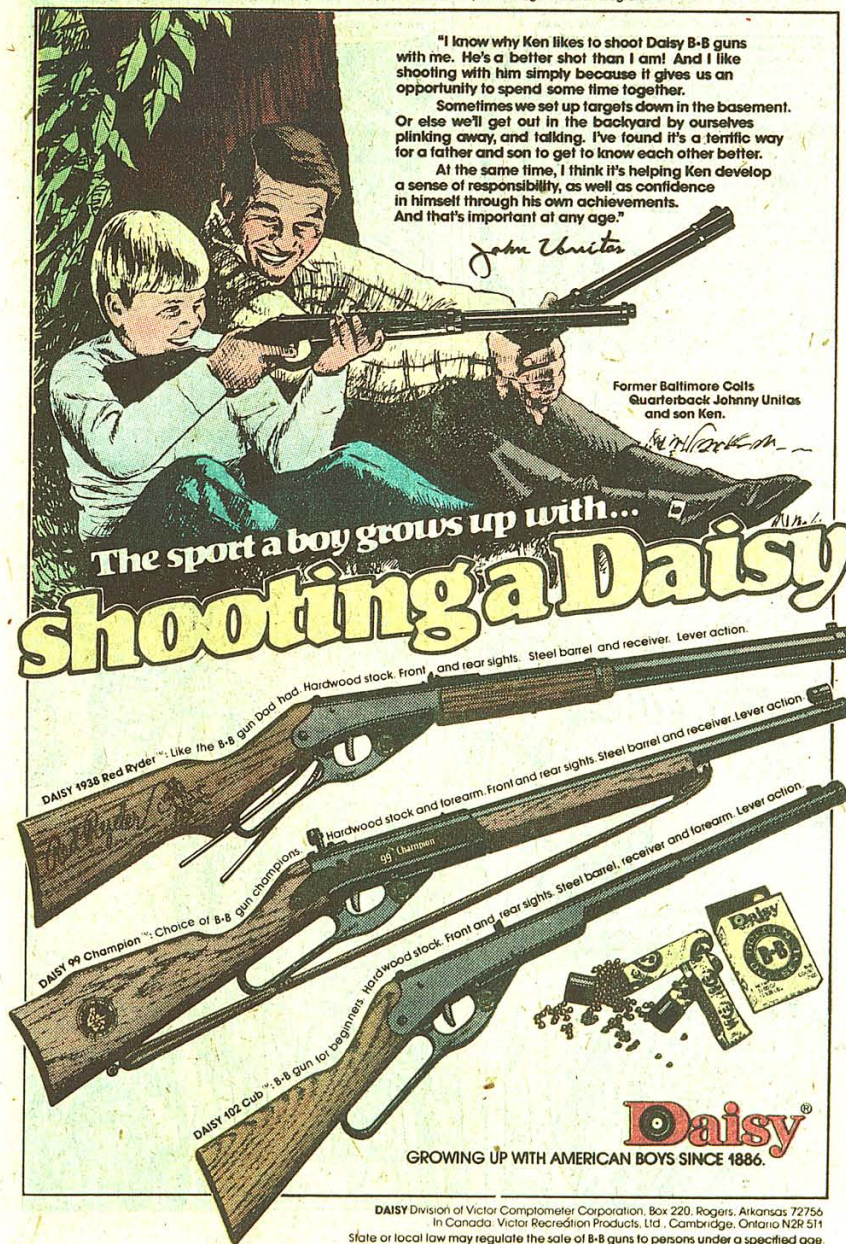
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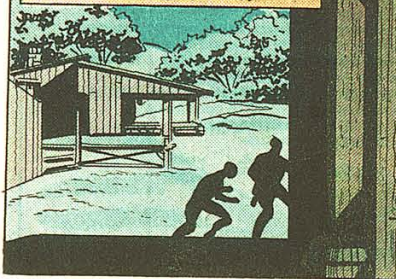


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WAR JOURNAL ENTRY NUMBER 417: WE RECONNOITERED THE AREA SILENTLY, AND THE ONLY SOUNDS WE HEARD IN RETURN WERE THE CHEERFUL CHIRPING OF THE NIGHTBIRDS OUTSIDE THE BARN--

--AND THE MUTTERED CONVERSATION OF TWO YARBIRDS WITHIN!



BUT AS THE MINUTES PASSED...

HEY, C'MON, RALPH-- WHAT'S KESPIN YA? WE GOT WORK TA DO!

RALPH? HEY MAN-- WHY DON'CHA ANSWER ME?



Y'KNOW, SOMETHIN'S WRONG HERE--AN I BETTER FIND OUT WHAT!

I STILL DON'T SEE WHY WE GOTTA FIX THE HITMAN'S MINICOPTER, RALPH. WHY CAN'T HE HANDLE HIS OWN STUPID...

QUIET, MORTY-- I THINK I HEAR SOMETHING!



HUH? I DON'T HEAR NOTHIN'!

WELL, IT COULDN'T HURT TO CHECK! I'LL BE RIGHT BACK!

'CUZ IF THERE IS SOMEBODY IN HERE, I'M GONNA CUT 'EM DOWN TA...

MMMPDP-- HNNELL



RALPH??

HEY, WHAT HAPPENED TO YA, MAN? YER TRUSS UP LIKE A TURKEY!



I COULDN'T HAVE PUT IT BETTER MYSELF-- "TURKEY!"

THANKS!

HEY-- WHA--??



NOW, UNLESS YOU "GENTLEMEN" WANT TO BE STUFFED AND ROASTED LIKE TURKEYS--

--I THINK WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A PLEASANT LITTLE CHAT!

Y-Y-YOU NAME IT, MISTER--AN IT'S YOURS!



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--AND AMIDST THE STIRRED SHOUTING OF ONE OF THE SEACRAFT PASSENGERS!

YOU WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS, MISTER!



LOOK, MAYBE I CAN MAKE AMENDS TO YOU! WH-WHY DON'T YOU JUST TAKE ME BACK TO THE DAILY BUGLE--

--AND I'LL WRITE A NEW SERIES OF EDITORIALS, TELLING THE WORLD YOU'RE REALLY...

REALLY, MR. JAMESON-- THAT'S THE SECOND OLDEST CLICHE IN THE BOOK. IT'D HAVE EXPECTED MORE ORIGINALITY FROM THE ELOQUENT AUTHOR OF SUCH SCATHING EDITORIALS!



E-E EDITORIALS? EDITORIALS?

COME ON, JAMESON-- YOU SHOULD BE PROUD OF YOUR OPINION PIECES OPPOSING THE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION FRONT!

PLEASE-- SAVE YOUR BREATH! IT WOULD BE A SHAME FOR YOU TO EAT YOUR WORDS AT THIS LATE DATE!



ESPECIALLY SINCE WE HAVE TO KILL YOU ANYWAY!

I'M AFRAID YOUR DEATH IS NECESSARY, MR. JAMESON-- TO SERVE AS AN EXAMPLE TO OTHERS OF YOUR ILK!

AFTER ALL, THEY'RE ABOUT TO BE THE DEATH OF YOU!



NOTHING PERSONAL ON MY PART, YOU UNDERSTAND-- JUST BUSINESS!

SO THAT'S WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT--!

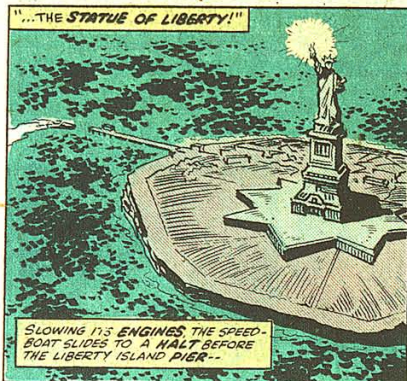
THEN DO YOUR WORST, YOU SNIVELLING CREEP! EVERY SINGLE WORD I WROTE ABOUT THE PLF IS ABSOLUTELY TRUE--

--AND IF MY EDITORIALS HAVE OPENED JUST ONE PERSON'S EYES TO THE DANGERS OF YOUR SELF-STYLED BRAND OF TERRORISM, THEN MY DEATH WON'T BE IN VAIN!



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THE SPIDER'S WEB

% MARVEL COMICS GROUP, 575 MADISON AVE., N.Y.C. 10022

Dear Len,

Just picked up SPIDER-MAN #170 today, and right away I knew I'd have to write. I mean, Dr. Faustus has always been one of my favorite old CAPTAIN AMERICA villains. The idea of a master psychologist using his abilities for his own personal gain is rather intriguing, at least to my way of thinking, and more than just a little bit chilling. And leave it to Wein to actually imbue Faustus with a power of sorts in the guise of that "perfectly-modulated voice". Nice touch, Len--even if it does bring back memories of the good Doctor's near-look-alike, Tragg, the man with the voice of doom!

Ross, too, deserves to be complimented for his powerful portrayal of Faustus. He really carried off the feeling of Faustus' mammoth size without making him roly-poly.

All in all, gents, it was a mighty fine issue, from the initial confrontation right down to that final "Compliments of your Friendly Neighborhood Spider-Man!" Gee, it was enough to make an old jaded soul like me feel nostalgic.

Art Stamper

Flushing, NY 11372

Well, Artie, looks like you weren't the only one to pick up on the slightly nostalgic bent of issue #170.

As a matter of fact, you have to look no further than the next missive...

Dear Len and Ross,

All right!

Now this is Spider-Man! This is the guy who is so incredibly agile and fast that he can twist, turn, and somersault through a seemingly impassable course of criss-crossing stun-beams--even while under the influence of a brain-numbing gas! This is the hero who can take out a whole mob of hired thugs without even breathing heavy! This is the human arachnid whose spider-sense warns him of the trickiest of traps!

In short, this is what I plunk down my coins once a month to see. Spider-Man, folks! To quote Nick Danger, "He's really neat!" And yet, we just don't get to see enough of him this way.

Oh, that's not to say that past stories haven't been good. As a matter of fact, they've been very good. It's just that they could've been...well...more spidery.

But with SPIDER-MAN #170...ah! It's like reading about an old friend. Panels 1 through 3 on page 15 were a good example of what I mean. That wildly gyrating, multiple-image Spider-Man is the kind of Spidey we need to see more of. And ditto for the shot of him just casually ripping the control box off the wall.

I sincerely hope that this issue bodes well for the return of a lot more spider-action. Remember, guys, that Spidey can leap the width of your average New York City street, and can jump about three stories straight up from a standing start.

Oh, and could Ross possibly squeeze in a panel or two of the ol' web-slinger hanging upside down from his web? Thanks.

Lou Feters

RR #1

Plainfield, IN

You're welcome, Louis.

And thank you for the comments. Every so often we need to sit back and remind ourselves that May Parker's nimble nephew is a whole lot more than just a strong guy who shoots webs.

Anyway, we're glad issue #170 was to your liking, and we sincerely hope that future issues are the same. (Who says the era of the polite response is dead?)

Dear Marvel,

I figured out who the mysterious house-hunter in issue #170 is!

Dave LaSalle

Enfield, CT 06082

Good for you!

Dear Marvel,

Issue #170 of SPIDER-MAN was very good. The story was great and the art was nothing short of fantastic. As a matter of fact, Ross Andru's art is terrific, but I do miss seeing Johnny Romita's art. Could he possibly do an issue or two once in a while?

R.C.M.

3 Crowley Court

Pittsburg, CA 94565

R.C., there's nothing that Len and Ross--and the whole blamed Bullpen, for that matter--would like more than to see a guest-shot by the Jazzy One every now and again. It would give Ross some breathing room on his ever-pressing deadlines, and it would give Johnny a chance to cut loose on a book that he really enjoys. However, logistically, it just ain't possible. Between his position as the House of Ideas' ever-lovin' Art Director, and his on-going collaboration with a fellow named Lee to keep the nation's newspapers up to their ears in the SPIDER-MAN daily and Sunday strips, Mr. R just doesn't have time to ply pencil and brush on a regular comic...or even a fill-in.

(But just between we and thee, if Johnny ever gets so much as a spare 15 minutes, we'll get him to do something--even if it's just to illustrate Aunt May's new cookbook!)

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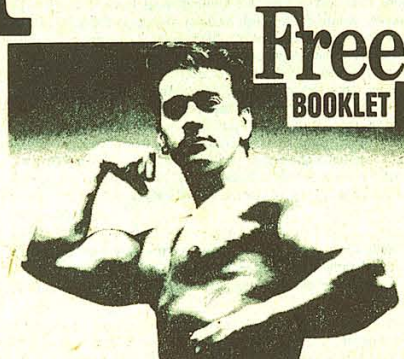
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P. Williams

"I have gained 20 pounds in just 30 days and I have gained over 6 inches on my chest. I find that my power has doubled. In sports I am a winner in everything I do."
B. Daniels

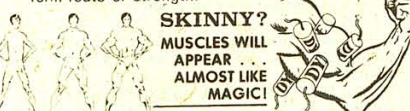
"I have gained 5" on my arms and 12" on my chest, while losing 3" off my waist. I have tripled my power and speed. Thanks for what you have done for me!"
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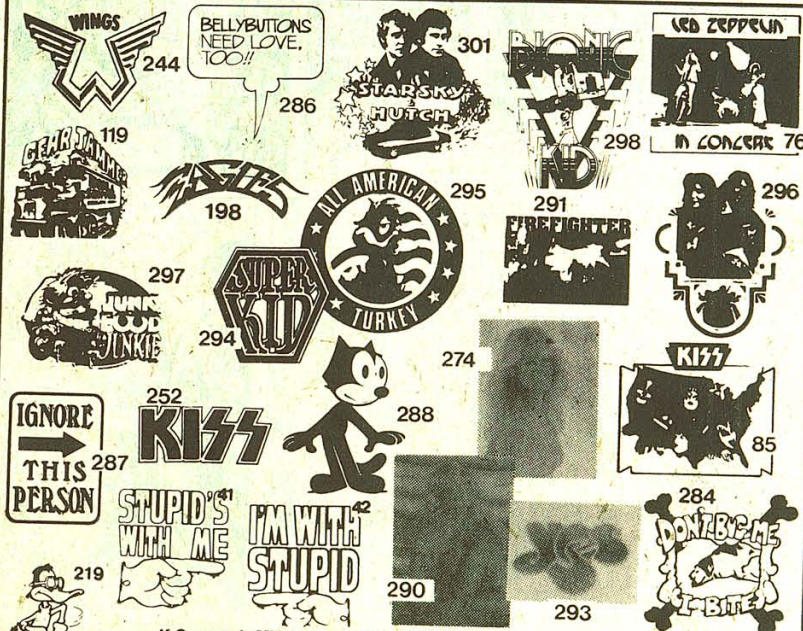
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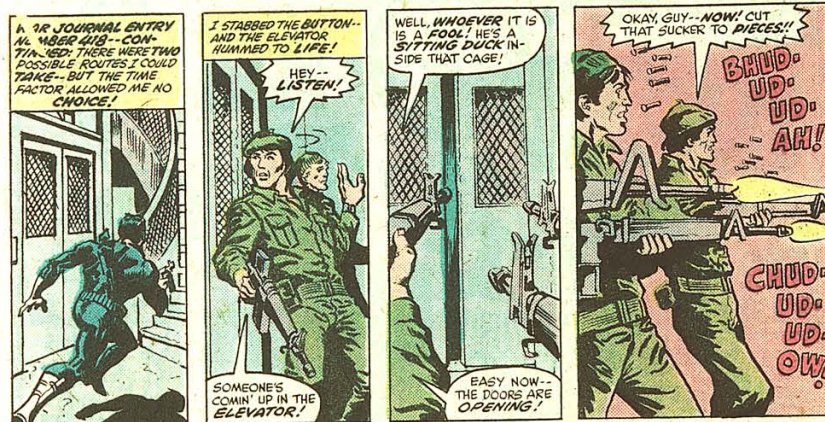
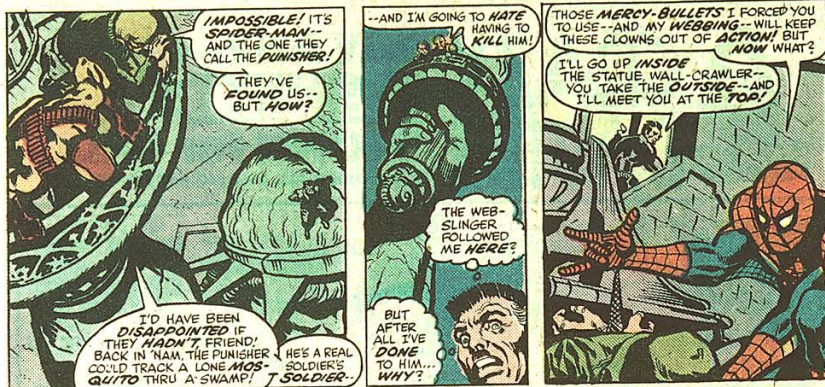
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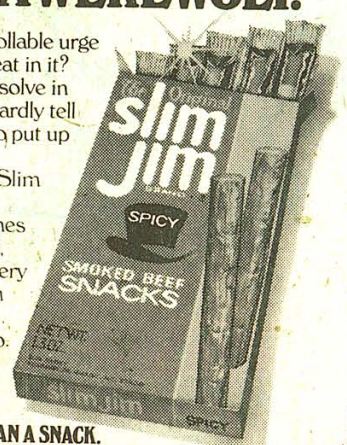
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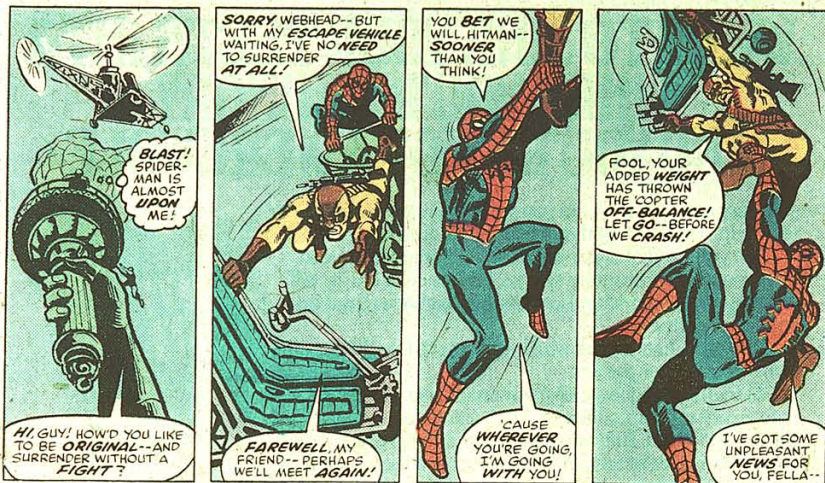
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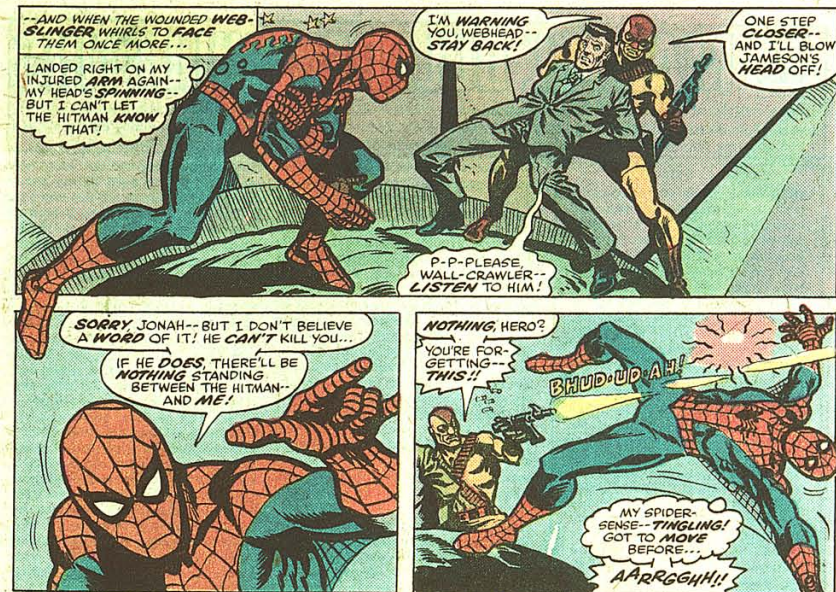
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Stan Lee
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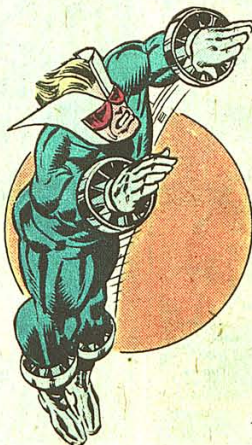
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STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX

Okay, World, you can stop holding your breath now! Here's the info everyone's been waiting for: the list of fantastic females featured in the latest "Origins" book to be published by Simon & Schuster, and going on sale in October at book stores everywhere! Pay close attention now—there may be a test at the end of the column! Titled *THE SUPERHERO WOMEN* (what else?), we're featuring blockbustin' yarns about Medusa, Black Widow, Sue Storm, The Cat, Ms. Marvel, the Fabulous Femizons, Hela and Sil, Shanna the She-Devil, the Wonderful Wasp, and the ever-lovin' Red Sonja! Naturally, you'll also meet all the happy-go-lucky heroes whom the gals have been associated with, as well! Now do you see why we're suggesting you reserve your copy of *THE SUPERHERO WOMEN* as early as possible? This one promises to outsell all the rest! And, speaking of exciting new publications, in case you've been wondering what the mysterious PIZZAZZ is all about, here's the inside scoop. It's a brand new publication for Marvel's younger readers, from ages 8 or 9 to early teens. Printed on glossy paper, with puzzles, games, stories, articles, and more colorful pix than you can wiggle a web at, it emphasizes features about tv and records, with a generous sprinkling of our own omnipresent super heroes thrown in! The first issue will only be on sale in the southeast portion of the U.S. (for some reason that presently escapes me), so if you can't survive another minute without it, you'll find a subscription blank somewhere or other in some of our mags at some time or other. (Nobody can accuse us of not being definite and precise!) Finally, just to whet your awesome appetite, here are some of the mighty Marvel heroes which Universal TV is currently filming for prime time showing—live action!—over CBS-TV this fall! The Incredible Hulk! Sub-Mariner! And, in preparation—Captain America, The Human Torch, and one of our fabulous females, as well. As soon as we decide which one she'll be, I'll clue you in! There's even more to come, so stay tuned, titanic one! And, while you're waiting and basking in all this mellifluous munificence, remember—always be gentle to your fellow man—he may be related to Irving Forbush!

Excelsior!

Stan



ITEM! After all the goodies set forth by Stan the Man in his soapbox, can there be any other tidbits with which to tempt, titillate, and otherwise tantalize you? Well, if we say no, it'd be diverting... but it'd also be

lying. For instance, we've got two of our most awesome Annuals to ease the burden of any back-to-school blues you might be suffering. First, there's the *TWO-IN-ONE ANNUAL*. This time the two are The Thing and Spider-Man, but thanks to writer/artist JIM STARLIN (and also to a nifty new addition to our inking ranks, JOE RUBINSTEIN) there's also about a jillion super-guests joining them for this frantic finish to the war with the mad god Thanos which began in this year's *AVENGERS ANNUAL*. Next, from the titanic team of ROY THOMAS and JOHN BUSCEMA, there's the *CONAN ANNUAL* which puts the bonus-length size of these books to bountiful use with a carefully concocted sequel to the only full-length novel Conan's creator ROBERT E. HOWARD ever wrote, namely *CONAN THE CONQUEROR*. And if all these somewhat less than subtle hints aren't enough to send you stampeding to your local comics outlet, then we'll just have to trot out another...

ITEM! Besides the duo of double-length dazzlers plugged above, September also marks the *MARVEL PREMIERE* appearance, of the tempestuous *TORPEDO*. His guest stints last year in *DAREDEVIL* drew an unprecedented pile of requests to try him in his own solo series. And, though it sometimes takes us a while to come through, the Bullpen never turns a deaf ear to the demands of you Marvelites. Hence, in a special two-issue saga, the *Torpedo*. ... as masterminded by his originator, writer/editor MARV WOLFMAN, with penciling by the late BOB BROWN and inking by Amiable AL MILGROM. You've been asking for this one, fellow fantasy fanciers, so don't let it get away from you.

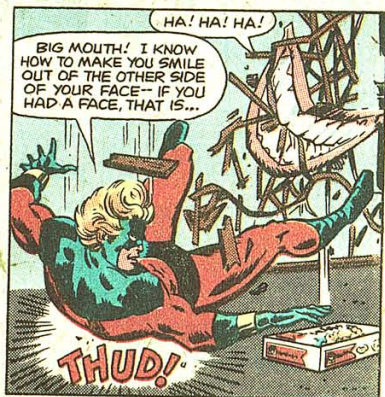
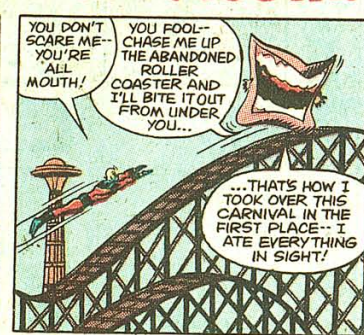
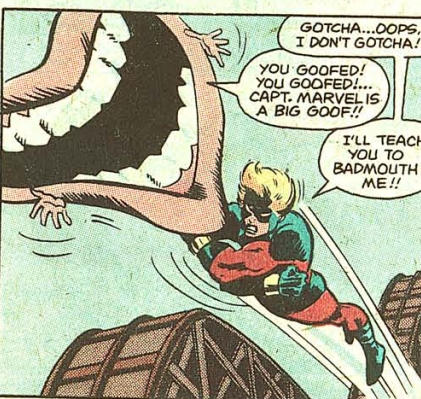
ITEM! It's mid-summer as your artful armadillo hunts and pecks his way through these pertinent passages, and that means that at least one day each week a horde of Bullpeners desert their desks and drawing boards the instant closing time approaches and surge toward Central Park's Sheep Meadow for another scintillating session of softball Marvel style. This year's team captains are "Nuff Said" NELSON YOMTOV and Jubilant JOHN ROMITA JR., who thus far have guided our tantalizing ten through victories over Grosset & Dunlap and Magazine Management, and clinched up sagging spirits over defeats from Plenum Publishing and a certain weekly newspaper whose title does not fall within the bounds of the comics code. A long season still stretches ahead of us, so watch this space for further word of triumphs and tragedies on the softball diamond. But lest you think the Bullpeners are strictly one sport athletes, be advised that the Central Park grasslands also shake once a week from the thunder of a growing group of Marvel volleyball enthusiasts. There's no established league in this case, but that doesn't prevent much spirited spiking and striking from such Bullpen luminaries as JIM (Trouble) SHOOTER, Lively LEN WEIN, Heavenly ELLEN KATZ (organizer of the games as well as guardian of the gates of our ninth floor offices), and Wondrous WALT SIMONSON, to say nothing of guest appearances by some exercise-starved employees of our Distinguished Competition (the only problem with them is finding telephone booths for them all to change in). Let's face it, friends, this summer season the hills of Central Park are alive with the sound of muscle strain.

ITEM! Hey, it was like old times around the hallowed halls last week when erstwhile editor-in-chief ROY THOMAS dropped in for a visit. The Rascally One flew in from his West Coast home and stopped around to chat about *CONAN* and all his other books, particularly our two-volume *Marvel Treasury Edition of STAR WARS* (Part one is currently on sale—if you're lucky—and part two will be newstand bound in October). In addition, Roy filled us in on the many movie and TV deals he has in the works (and as fast as they become final, we'll be letting you know, Marvelite). He then rushed on to Philadelphia for an appearance at the July 4th Comicon as keynote speaker. All that California sunshine and salt sea air hasn't slowed Mr. T. down a bit. Keep it up, Roy, you're an inspiration to us all!

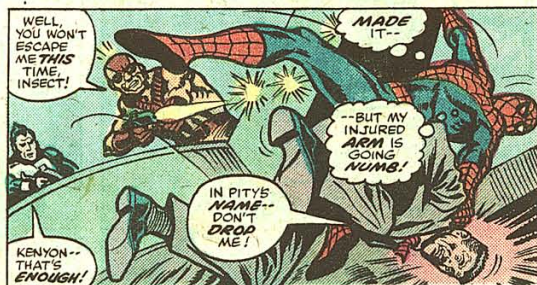
ITEM! If you haven't subscribed to *FOOM* (And if we have to tell you that that stands for Friends Of Ol' Marvel, turn in your Irving Forbush decoder badges), then now is surely the time. Next ish, #19, will be the special *DEFENDERS* issue; everybody's favorite non-group was voted by *FOOM* readers as the subject they'd most like to see covered. Coming up after that, editor DAVE KRAFT is reading an old Edgar Rice Burroughs issue. So, don't lose out on all the inside info, subscribe today! And come see us here again, same time, same page next month.

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CAPTAIN MARVEL IN "HE'S ALL MOUTH!"



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NEXT ISSUE:

THE MOST FRIGHTENING SUPER-FOE OF ALL RETURNS, AND SPIDER-MAN IS HELPLESS TO STOP HIM! BE HERE FOR...

HE WHO LAUGHS LAST!

The secret of teaching yourself music

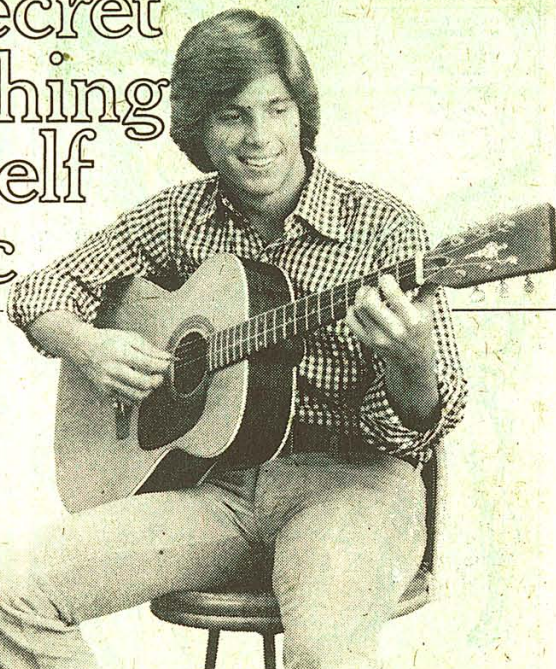
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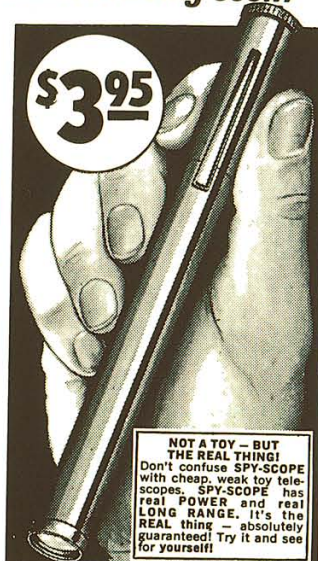
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